ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE EXPENSES

OF THE

TOWN OF WESTFORD,

Year Ending February 11, 1856.

LOWELL:
S. J. VARNEY, PRINTER, 27 CENTRAL STREET.
1856.

REPORT.

TREASURER'S OFFICE,
Westford, February 9th, 1856.

The Committee chosen to reckon and settle with the Town Treasurer, for the year ending at date, submit the following Report:

RECEIPTS.

Balance in Treasurer's hands at the last settlement,	$712 29
Cash borrowed of David Whitney,	500 00
" " John W. P. Abbot,	800 00
" received from State School Fund,	66 82
" " " Dividends on Stony Brook Railroad Stock,	30 00
" " " Darius A. Dow, Liquor Agent,	59 15
" " " Timothy P. Wright, Collector for 1854, in full,	29 40
" " " " " " prior to Oct 6, 1855,	2623 12
" " " " " " prior to Dec. 6, "	607 81
" " " " " " after Dec. 1, "	1500 00
	$6928 59

PAYMENTS.

To John W. P. Abbot, Note and Interest,	$815 12
David Whitney, Note and Interest,	516 50
John Osgood, Note and Interest,	177 33
Interest on Notes,	57 00
State Tax for 1855,	621 00
County Tax for 1855,	808 67
Overseers of the Poor,	728 00
School Districts,	1382 07
Orders outstanding at last settlement,	36 81
Orders granted since last settlement,	1178 58
Balance now in Treasurer's hands,	607 51
	$6928 59

Your Committee further report that the Town is indebted to the following named persons, to wit:

Jesse Wright, Note and Interest,	$394 25
John Osgood, " "	309 25
Mrs. Sally Adams, "	104 11
The several School Districts,	875 84
Master at Poor House,	260 00
Orders outstanding,	9 60
Incidental Claims estimated,	125 00
Claims for breaking out roads, the present winter, estimated,	500 00
	$2578 05

RESOURCES.

Balance in Treasurer's hands,	$607 51	
Five Shares Stony Brook Railroad Stock,	500 00	
Dividend accumulated on said Stock,	7 50	
Amount of Tax for 1855 uncollected but considered available,	25 00	
		$1140 01
Leaving a balance against the Town,		$1438 04
Amount of debt in 1855,		1261 58
Increase of debt,		$176 46

LUTHER PRESCOTT,
THOMAS RICHARDSON } Committee.
SOLOMON RICHARDSON,

SHERMAN D. FLETCHER, Treasurer.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

The Selectmen of the Town of Westford, for the year ending March 3d, 1856, submit the following Report:

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES, INCLUDING TOWN OFFICER'S COMPENSATION.

S. D. Fletcher, Town Treasurer, 1854,	$12 00
" drawing Pauper and School money, paying State and County Taxes, and entertainment furnished Committee to reckon with Town Treasurer, 1854,	4 00
" Stationery, 1854,	82
L. Luce, Services as School Committee, 1854,	20 00
" paid Express on books, 1854,	1 51
" Recording five deaths, 1854,	75
" " two births, 1854,	40
Amos Day, work on west burying ground, 1854,	2 00
Thomas Wilson, Services as School Committee, 1854,	20 00
" " paid for printing School Report, 1854,	12 00
" " going to Lowell and getting Reports, 1854,	1 00
Wm. W. Goodhue, attending 34 Funerals with Hearse, 1854,	23 46
Stillman Clark, Services as School Committee, 1854,	20 00
First Parish in Westford, tolling bell at funerals,	7 50
Union Society, " " " "	7 50
D. C. Butterfield, Liquor Agent,	65 40
E. Symmes, Committee to re-District the Town,	5 00
Buttler & Webster, legal services in complaint v. Mansfield,	12 00
G. W. White, painting, varnishing and trimming Hearse,	16 00
D. C. Butterfield entertainment for Town Officers,	12 75
" Postage,	1 35
L. Luce, paid for painting Book Case,	1 50
Stillman Clark, for numbering Scholars,	3 33
J. W. P. Abbot, making Taxes, 15 days,	22 50
" Board,	3 75
P. Chamberlin, making Taxes, 11 days,	16 50
" attending to the Mansfield case,	5 00
Oliver Wright, making Taxes, 12 days,	18 00
" Board,	3 00
Aria Nutting, mowing brush in north burying ground,	3 00
Leonard Luce, numbering Scholars,	3 00
" paid freight on books,	87
Amount carried forward,	$325 89

Amount brought forward,	$325 89
J. B. Reed, taking Hearse to Littleton and going after it,	1 50
First Parish, use of Hall year ending Nov. 1st, '55,	33 00
" Fuel,	1 00
T. P. Wright, paid for Printing 2000 Tax Bills,	5 50
Elias Sweetser, numbering Scholars in 1853,	1 00
Thomas Wilson, " " " 1855,	3 33
Solomon Richardson, appraising property at Poor-Farm in 1855,	1 50
S. J. Varney, Printing Town Reports for 1854,	11 00
" " various blanks and advertisements,	20 00
Butler & Webster, services in actions v. Mansfield,	18 00
Adams & North, 2 Ballot-Boxes,	3 00
S. & S. D. Fletcher, Stationery,	30
Oren Coolidge, Committee about flowing Poor-Farm meadows, 1853,	3 00
T. Read, Committee to build a barn at Poor-Farm,	2 00
J. B. Fletcher, entertainment for Town Officers,	5 00
T. P. Wright, posting Warrants in 1854,	2 00
" " " " 1855,	4 50
" collecting Highway Lists and serving notices,	4 00
" " Taxes year ending March 3d, '56,	71 25
" " Poll Taxes by order of Assessors,	5 00
	$521 77

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

T. P. Wright, going to Framingham to settle indictment,	$4 00
" notifying witnesses not to attend Court,	1 50
Eli Tower, work on the road 3 days,	3 75
" covering stone for bridge,	1 75
" breaking out roads, 19 hours,	2 38
Horace Pratt, " " 1853, 106 "	13 25
Samuel N. Burbeck, " " " 75 "	9 37
Joshua Whidden, " " " 14 "	1 75
George Gilson, " " " 10 "	1 25
Benj. A Reed, work on Swamp Road, 54 days,	72 00
Charles G. Sargent, bridge plank and work,	5 34
John F. Wright, breaking out roads and repairing bridge,	4 25
Calvin Howard, work on read, 36 hours,	4 50
A. W. Cumings, work on bridge near C. Coolidges',	1 25
Erastus Wright, building stone bridge over Snake Meadow Brook,	49 00
Artemas Gates, " " " " Vine Brook,	57 50
Ephraim A. Howard, breaking out roads, 1854, 158 hours,	9 75
" " work repairing roads, "	10 00
J. W. Hutchins, breaking out roads, " 28 hours,	3 50
" repairing Vine Brook Bridge and Hill,	5 24
D. C. Butterfield, powder and fuse,	49
G. B. Hildreth, repairing, painting, lettering and putting up guide-boards,	4 42
B. V. Lyon, breaking out roads, 1854, 72 hours,	9 00
" repairing road, "	1 00
J. W. P. Abbot, letting out and accepting bridges,	2 50
P. Chamberlin, " " " "	2 50
O. Wright, " " " "	2 50
Amount carried forward,	$283 74

Amount brought forward,	$283 74
A. Nutting, repairing stone bridge,	50
E Wright, extra work on stone bridge,	5 00
O. Woodward, building stone bridge on North Road,	16 34
" work, repairing road,	6 87
Elias Sweetser, repairing plough, broken in 1853,	3 75
" breaking out road, 40 hours, in '53 and '54,	5 00
Wm. W. Edes, 10 days work on roads in 1854,	10 00
Ed. Symmes, looking up bounds of a road,	75
T. Keyes, taking up and repairing bridge by Thos. Horan's house,	17 93
Jesse Hildreth, breaking out roads, 64 hours, 1854,	8 00
" repairing road by order of Selectmen in 1854,	10 00
Oren Coolidge, breaking out roads, 5 hours, 1855,	59
" repairing bridge,	9 00
Nathaniel Sweetser, breaking out roads, 29 hours, 1853,	3 62
Oren Coolidge, " " 74 hours, 1855,	5 90
Zacheus Read, " " 12 hours, 1854,	1 50
" work on bridge near Nathan Dexter's,	2 50
James Chickering, breaking out roads, 140½ hours, 1855,	17 56
J. B. Fletcher, " " 274¼ hours, 1855,	34 80
B V. Lyon, " " 533 hours, 1855,	66 62
Thad. A. Blodgett, " " 54 hours, 1854,	6 75
D. P. Lawrence, bridge plank, 1854,	3 00
Amos Heywood, breaking out roads, 72 hours, 1855,	9 00
L. H. Hildreth, " " " 101 hours, 1855,	12 62
	$541 34

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

Orders amounting to	$728 00

SCHOOLS.

School District No. 1,	144 scholars,		$229 92
" 2,	83 "		157 94
" 3,	38 "		104 84
" 4,	39 "		106 12
" 5,	61 "		131 98
" 6,	45 "		113 10
" 7,	59 "		129 62
" 8,	31 "		96 58
" 9,	25 "		89 50
" 10,	36 "		102 48
Scholars in 1855,	561		$1262 08
" 1854,	487		
	74 increase in 1855.		

In 1855 each scholar drew $2 24 9-10
In 1854 " " " 2 62

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Taxes assessed in 1854,	Town Tax.	Highway Tax returned unworked.	
Sylvester Hildreth,		$1 81	$1 81
Ephm. Abbot,		3 60	3 60
George Kidder,		1 37	1 37
Benja. M. Fletcher,		95	95
George Davis,	$0 54 error		54
Alfred Scott,		71	71
Augustus S. Hildreth,	1 50	36	1 86
Jarvin Chaney,	1 50		1 50
Imla Lawrence,	3 81		3 81
Preserved Ford,	1 50		1 50
Henry Secord,	1 50		1 50
Samuel Scott,	1 50	36	1 86
Cyril Stone,	1 50		1 50
Mathew Smith,	1 50		1 50
Solomon Taylor,	1 50	36	1 86
George Whitney,	1 50		1 50
Wm. Morgan,	1 50		1 50
Michael Murphy,	1 50		1 50
			$30 37

Taxes assessed in 1855.

Aria Hamlin,	$0 54 error		$0 54
Joseph Hildreth, Guardian,	99		99
J. W. P. Abbot, Guardian,	19 17		19 17
Walter Kidder,	6 48		6 48
John Morrison,	1 62		1 62
Franklin Fairbanks,	1 50		1 50
Michael Condon,		35	35
Joseph Coughran,	1 50		1 50
Cornelius Caughlin		35	35
John Blanchard,	1 50		1 50
Joseph Carson,		35	35
David Gates,	1 50		1 50
Wm. E. Hildreth,		35	35
George Townsend,	1 50		1 50
Samuel Entwissel,		35	35
Charles H. Titus,	1 50		1 50
David Skinner,		35	35
Charles H. Hildreth,	1 50	35	1 85
John Kelly,		35	35
Rufus Keyes,	1 50		1 50
Thomas Cumings, jr.,		35	35
Lucy Davis,	2 16		2 16
Augustus Cumings,		35	35
Estate of Stephen Hawkins,		2 59	2 59
Samuel S. Gilson,		35	35
James O. Larbree,	1 50		1 50
Jonas Hutchins,		35	35
Alonzo Sweetser,	1 50	35	1 85
Amount carried forward,			$83 47

Amount brought forward,			$83 47
John B. Palmer,		35	35
George W. Abbot,	1 50		1 50
Augustus Tuttle,		35	35
Joshua Whidden,	1 50		1 50
George Whitney,		35	35
Benj. Palmer,	1 62		1 62
James Savage,	1 50	35	1 85
Wm. K. Perry,	1 50		1 50
Michael Murphy, 2d,	1 50	35	1 85
Michael Murphy, 3d,	1 50		1 50
John Walker,	1 50		1 50
John O'Brien,	1 50		1 50
Patrick McCarty,	1 50		1 50
Solomon Taylor,	1 50	35	1 85
			$102 19

SUMMARY.

Money raised for Town debts and charges,	$2,000 00	
" " Schools,	1,200 00	
" " Overlayings,	206 79	
Highway taxes returned unworked,	89 15	
State Tax,	621 00	
County Tax,	808 67	
		$4,925 61

No. of Polls, 404. Tax, 54 cents on the $100.

INCIDENTAL EXPRNSES.

Previous to March 5th, 1855,	$154 44	
" " 3d, 1856,	367 33	
		521 77

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Previous to March 5th, 1855,	$148 18	
" " 3d, 1856,	394 16	
		542 34
Overseers of the Poor,		728 00
School Districts,		1,262 08
Abatement of Taxes,		101 19
		$3,155 38

The Selectmen estimate the liabilities of the Town as follows:—

Incidental expenses,	$125 00	
Snow bills,	500 00	
		$625 00

And recommend to the Town to raise $2,000 00, to defray Town debts and charges the ensuing year.

J. W. P. ABBOT,
P. CHAMBERLIN,
OLIVER WRIGHT, } Selectmen of Westford.

REPORT OF THE OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

The Overseers of the Poor submit the following Report for the support of the Poor from February 7th, 1855, to February 7th, 1856.

Amount of Personal Property at the Poor House, including Farming Tools, Stock, &c., as by the Appraisal of the Committee,—

Appraisal February 19th, 1856,	$1,661 89
" " 10th, 1855,	1,411 72
Gain on Personal Property,	$250 17

Income from the Farm as by Willis Wilder's books,—

Butter, 1050 lbs.,	$265 12
Milk,	11 15
Calves,	59 37
One pair of Oxen,	150 00
Poultry and Eggs,	32 51
Beef and Hide,	11 97
Meat and Lard,	3 55
Board,	3 08
Rye and Seed Corn,	9 08
Potatoes,	38 86
Vegetables,	4 86
Apples,	207 48
Vinegar,	5 10
Hay and Straw,	31 10
Lumber,	2 25
Use of Waggon,	50
One Old Horse Rake,	5 00
Work done off the farm,	13 65
Money left by Jepthah Read,	1 33
Error in D. C. Butterfield's bill of goods,	98
Cash drawn from the Treasury,	728 00
From the State for State Paupers,	14 77
From last year's settlement,	5 71
	$1,605 42

Payments made by W. Wilder,—

Nichols & Co., for goods,	$83 00
D. C. Butterfield "	14 44
S. & S. D. Fletcher, "	18 84
Amount carried forward,	$116 28

Amount brought forward,	$116 28	
S. Bancroft, for goods,	12 98	
Corn and meal,	79 37	
Grass seed,	7 55	
Buckwheat and garden seeds,	2 75	
Leland & Fisher, for meat,	10 07	
D. C. Butterfield, meat,	4 36	
Salt pork,	11 37	
Fresh fish,	4 87	
Clothing for Amaziah Kemp,	10 37	
Truss " "	3 00	
Medicine for Mrs. Henderson,	8 00	
" " Samuel Richardson,	2 99	
Dr. B. Osgood, medical attendance,	2 00	
Dr. D. A. Dow, " "	2 00	
For hens,	4 00	
four shoats,	30 31	
one pair of oxen,	130 00	
pasturing Heifer,	2 34	
cherry trees,	3 33	
flour barrels,	10 50	
plaster,	7 00	
work at haying,	21 75	
labor on the Farm,	132 15	
chopping wood,	4 25	
women's work in the house,	40 00	
T. P. Wright, for blacksmithing,	9 42	
Edward Prescott, making cider,	2 13	
Repairs of pump and sled,	3 00	
Ephraim Wright, coffin for Z. Read,	4 45	
Levi Prescott, for ox and horse work,	8 00	
Expenses going after oxen,	3 15	
One plough,	8 00	
One horse-rake,	6 75	
Wood-saw, ax, &c.,	3 00	
Two plough points and other articles,	2 25	
One lantern and butter bowl,	1 33	
As by his books,	23 19	
		$738 26
Bills paid by the Overseers,—		
Willis Wilder,	300 00	
Cyrus Hamblin, for a cow,	45 00	
Dr. Levi Howard, medical attendance upon E. P. Richardson,	35 00	
C. H. Pierce, for a horse,	165 00	
George B. Hildreth, for painting,	19 04	
D. C. Butterfield, for goods,	13 72	
S. & S. D Fletcher, "	44 82	
Ephraim Wright, coffin and work,	4 55	
Levi Snow for digging grave,	1 50	
Town of Chelmsford for T. Kemp,	3 70	
Town of Groton, for T. Campbell,	119 38	
Cyrus Hamblin, for work, 1834,	4 55	
Abijah Read for chopping wood,	3 75	
Amount carried forward,	$760 01	

Amount brought forward,		$760 01
Paid T. Keyes for taking care of Margaret Spencer,	19 05	
Paid Dr.B.Osgood,medical attendance upon Margaret Spencer,	11 25	
N. S. Hamblin, going to Chelmsford to see about E. B. Richardson, 3 times,	4 00	
Goods for do.,	1 50	
Making out Reports, 1855,	4 00	
Carrying Mrs. Elbridge Neal to the Poor House,	1 00	
Going to Groton twice to see about John Campbell and paying bill,	4 00	
Services as Overseer,	5 00	
Caleb Wight, three journies to Tewksbury to carry paupers and cash paid,	9 00	
Services as Overseer,	5 00	
David P. Lawrence, services as Overseer,	5 00	
Going to Groton to see about John Campbell and cash paid,	4 00	
		$832 81
Amount of bills paid by W. Wilder,		738 26
Cash in hands of Overseers,		34 35
		$1,605 42

Statement of the Expense of the Poor above the income of the Farm, for the year ending February 9th, 1856,—

Amount of cash drawn from the Treasury,		$728 00
Received from the State,		14 77
Hands of the Overseers from last year,		5 71
		$748 48
Gain on Personal Property,	$250 17	
Cash in hands of Overseers,	34 35	
Due from the State,	15 30	
		299 82
Cost of supporting Poor exclusive of interest on the Farm,		$448 66

Of the above sum, $202 91 have been incurred on account of Paupers out of the Alms House; of the above sum, $60 13 for materials and work painting the house.

NATHAN S. HAMBLIN,
CALEB WIGHT,
DAVID P. LAWRENCE,
} Overseers of the Poor of Westford.

Westford, February 9th, 1856.